

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Rubin et al.

Group Art Unit: 1652

Serial No. Not yet assigned

Examiner: Slobodyansky, E.

Filed: Herewith

Attorney Docket No. B97-081-7

For: *KUZ, a Novel Family of
Metalloproteases*

Date: May 31, 2001

This application is a divisional of USSN 09/709,126, filed Nov. 8, 2000, which is a divisional of USSN 09/285,502, filed Apr. 2, 1999, now Pat No 6,190,876, which is a divisional of USSN 08,937,931, filed Aug. 27, 1997, now Pat No 5,935,792 which is a continuing appln. of 60/053,476, filed Jul. 23, 1997 and 60/019,390, filed Aug. 29, 1996.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

The Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Commissioner:

Prior to examination of this application, please enter the following amendments:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 6 of p.1 with the following:

a This application is a divisional of USSN 09/709,126, filed Nov. 8, 2000, which is a divisional of USSN 09/285,502, filed April 2, 1999, now US Pat No. 6,190,876, which is a divisional of USSN 08/937,931, filed August 27, 1997, now US Pat No. 5,935,792, which claims the benefit of 60/053,476, filed Jul. 23, 1997 and 60/019,390, filed Aug. 29, 1996, each of which is incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.

Please replace the first paragraph following "BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS" on p.3 with the following paragraph:

1/2/a
J.G.
3/27/02

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